

Gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ and different Muon Neutrino and Anti-Neutrino Oscillations: MINOS and beyond

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Abstract

If a Z' gauge boson of a gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ symmetry is very light, it is associated with a long-range leptonic force. In this case the particles in the Sun create via mixing of Z' with the Standard Model Z a flavor-dependent potential for muon neutrinos in terrestrial long-baseline experiments. The potential changes sign for anti-neutrinos and hence can lead to apparent differences in neutrino and anti-neutrino oscillations without introducing CP or CPT violation. This can for instance explain the recently found discrepancy in the survival probabilities of muon neutrinos and anti-neutrinos in the MINOS experiment. We obtain the associated parameters of gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ required to explain this anomaly. The consequences for future long-baseline experiments and for the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon are discussed. The main feature of our explanation is that atmospheric neutrino mixing has to be non-maximal. Neutrino masses tend to be quasi-degenerate.

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1 Introduction

Additional gauged $U(1)$ symmetries are a feature of many theories beyond the Standard Model (for a review, see e.g. Ref. [1]). A large amount of interesting phenomenology arises in such scenarios, including LHC physics, lepton flavor violation, dark matter, etc. Here we focus on a particularly interesting class of models, namely anomaly free $U(1)$ symmetries under which the SM is invariant. It was observed long ago [2] that with the particle content of the Standard Model one can gauge one of the lepton flavor combinations $L_e - L_\mu$, $L_e - L_\tau$ or $L_\mu - L_\tau$ without introducing anomalies. If the gauge bosons associated with this $U(1)$ symmetry are very light, then long-range forces are introduced. In case the extra $U(1)$ corresponds to $L_e - L_\mu$ or $L_e - L_\tau$, the electrons in the Sun or the Earth generate a potential acting on the neutrinos in terrestrial experiments [3–5]. The flavor dependence of $L_e - L_\mu$ or $L_e - L_\tau$ induces modifications to the neutrino oscillations and therefore the coupling of the $U(1)$ can be constrained. The lack of a significant amount of muons in the Sun or Earth lead to the fact that the oscillation phenomenology of gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ with very light Z' was never studied, though this symmetry was analyzed with different phenomenology in mind [6–10].

In the present letter we note that the unavoidable Z – Z' mixing in models with gauged $U(1)$ symmetries allows to put limits on the parameters associated with $L_\mu - L_\tau$. The flavor dependent potential generated by the Z' has different sign for neutrinos and anti-neutrinos and can therefore lead to seemingly different neutrino and anti-neutrino parameters. We apply this to the recently found discrepancy in the survival probabilities of muon neutrinos and anti-neutrinos by the MINOS collaboration [11]. In this long-baseline experiment, the results for the oscillation parameters in the neutrino and anti-neutrino running lead to different values, namely¹

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta m^2 &= (2.35^{+0.11}_{-0.08}) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \sin^2 2\theta > 0.91, \\ \overline{\Delta m^2} &= (3.36^{+0.45}_{-0.40}) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \sin^2 2\bar{\theta} = 0.86 \pm 0.11, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

for neutrinos and anti-neutrinos, respectively [11]. We will use here the impact of a long-range force associated with the Z' of gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ to explain this anomaly. We obtain the parameters (Z – Z' mixing and gauge coupling) of the $U(1)$ and discuss in addition consequences for future long-baseline neutrino oscillation experiments and the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon. An interesting feature of our proposal is that in order for gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ to be the explanation of the MINOS results, atmospheric neutrino mixing needs to be non-maximal. We furthermore find an interesting correlation in what regards the sign of the differences between neutrino and anti-neutrino parameters. Neutrino masses tend to be quasi-degenerate.

Previous possible explanations for the MINOS results are CPT violation [12], sterile neutrinos plus a gauged $B - L$ symmetry with a massive ($\sim \text{eV}$ scale) Z' [13], or non-standard interactions [14]. The first two papers [12] and [13] were motivated by previous low statistics results from MINOS, while Ref. [14] and the present work use the recent higher statistics

¹This result is henceforth referred to as “MINOS anomaly”.

data sets [11].

In Section 2 we outline the framework of gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ symmetry including Z - Z' mixing, current constraints are described in Section 3. The results are applied to oscillation phenomenology and the MINOS results in Section 4, where we also study the impact on future neutrino oscillation experiments, the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon and neutrino masses. Section 5 summarizes our findings.

2 Gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ Symmetry

The most general Lagrangian after breaking the $SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)_Y \times U(1)_{L_\mu - L_\tau}$ symmetry can be written as [15]

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \mathcal{L}_{Z'} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{mix}}, \quad (2)$$

where the relevant part of the Standard Model Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} = -\frac{1}{4}\hat{B}_{\mu\nu}\hat{B}^{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4}\hat{W}_{\mu\nu}^a\hat{W}^{a\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{M}_Z^2\hat{Z}_\mu\hat{Z}^\mu - \frac{\hat{e}}{\hat{c}_W}j_B^\mu\hat{B}_\mu - \frac{\hat{e}}{\hat{s}_W}j_W^{a\mu}\hat{W}_\mu^a, \quad (3)$$

and the hats denote that we are not in the mass eigenbasis. The currents j_B^μ and $j_W^{a\mu}$ are the usual Standard Model ones. The gauge coupling of the $U(1)_{L_\mu - L_\tau}$ is denoted \hat{g}' . The Z' part in our case is

$$\mathcal{L}_{Z'} = -\frac{1}{4}\hat{Z}'_{\mu\nu}\hat{Z}'^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{M}_Z'^2\hat{Z}'_\mu\hat{Z}'^\mu - \hat{g}'j'^\mu\hat{Z}'_\mu, \quad (4)$$

$$j'^\mu = \bar{\mu}\gamma^\mu\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu\gamma^\mu P_L\nu_\mu - \bar{\tau}\gamma^\mu\tau - \bar{\nu}_\tau\gamma^\mu P_L\nu_\tau, \quad (5)$$

with the projection operator $P_L \equiv \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma_5)$. The term $\frac{1}{2}\hat{M}_Z'^2\hat{Z}'_\mu\hat{Z}'^\mu$ breaks the $U(1)_{L_\mu - L_\tau}$ symmetry, and is generated by a vev of some Higgs sector (left unspecified here). Then there are terms associated with mixing of the field strength tensors and the two massive bosons:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mix}} = -\frac{\sin\chi}{2}\hat{Z}'^{\mu\nu}\hat{B}_{\mu\nu} + \delta\hat{M}^2\hat{Z}'_\mu\hat{Z}^\mu \quad (6)$$

with the kinetic mixing angle χ . The crucial mixing term $\sin\chi$ can arise directly, or can be generated radiatively [16].

Diagonalizing [15] the kinetic terms (which gives fields denoted by $B^\mu = \hat{B}^\mu + \sin\chi\hat{Z}'^\mu$ and $Z'_\mu = \cos\chi\hat{Z}'_\mu$) and then the mass terms leads, besides the usual W bosons, to a massless photon field $A^\mu = \hat{c}_W B^\mu + \hat{s}_W W^{3\mu}$ and two massive gauge bosons Z_1 and Z_2 . They are related to the original \hat{Z} and \hat{Z}' as

$$Z_1^\mu = \cos\xi\left(\hat{Z}^\mu - \hat{s}_W\sin\chi\hat{Z}'^\mu\right) + \sin\xi\cos\chi\hat{Z}'_\mu, \quad (7)$$

$$Z_2^\mu = \cos\xi\cos\chi\hat{Z}'_\mu - \sin\xi\left(\hat{Z}^\mu - \hat{s}_W\sin\chi\hat{Z}'^\mu\right), \quad (8)$$

where ξ is a new mixing angle defined by

$$\tan 2\xi = \frac{-2 \cos \chi (\delta \hat{M}^2 + \hat{M}_Z^2 \hat{s}_W \sin \chi)}{\hat{M}_{Z'}^2 - \hat{M}_Z^2 \cos^2 \chi + \hat{M}_Z^2 \hat{s}_W^2 \sin^2 \chi + 2\delta \hat{M}^2 \hat{s}_W \sin \chi}. \quad (9)$$

The above physical particles Z_1 and Z_2 are in the literature normally called Z and Z' . We will follow this notation from now on. Their masses are given by

$$M_{1,2}^2 = \frac{a+c}{2} \pm \sqrt{b^2 + \left(\frac{a-c}{2}\right)^2} \quad (10)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \hat{M}_Z^2, & b &= \hat{s}_W \tan \chi \hat{M}_Z^2 + \frac{\delta \hat{M}^2}{\cos \chi}, \\ c &= \frac{1}{\cos^2 \chi} \left(\hat{M}_Z^2 \hat{s}_W^2 \sin^2 \chi + 2\hat{s}_W \sin \chi \delta \hat{M}^2 + \hat{M}_{Z'}^2 \right). \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

The situation simplifies considerably if the Z' is much lighter than the Z , i.e., if $\chi \ll 1$ and $\delta \hat{M}^2 \ll \hat{M}_Z^2$ are very small. In this case we have for the masses

$$M_1^2 \simeq \hat{M}_Z^2, \quad M_2^2 \simeq c - \frac{b^2}{a-c}, \quad (12)$$

and the mixing angle is

$$\xi \simeq \frac{1}{\cos \chi} \left(\hat{s}_W \sin \chi + \frac{\delta \hat{M}^2}{\hat{M}_Z^2} \right) \simeq \hat{s}_W \chi + \frac{\delta \hat{M}^2}{\hat{M}_Z^2}. \quad (13)$$

With this approximation the Lagrangians for the physical particles are²

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_A &= -e (j_{\text{EM}})_\mu A^\mu, \\ \mathcal{L}_{Z_1} &= - \left(\frac{e}{s_W c_W} ((j_3)_\mu - s_W^2 (j_{\text{EM}})_\mu) + g' \xi (j')_\mu \right) Z_1^\mu, \\ \mathcal{L}_{Z_2} &= - \left(g' (j')_\mu - (\xi - s_W \chi) \frac{e}{s_W c_W} ((j_3)_\mu - s_W^2 (j_{\text{EM}})_\mu) - e c_W \chi (j_{\text{EM}})_\mu \right) Z_2^\mu. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

The Lagrangian for the A^μ field is the canonical one and hence $\hat{e} = e$. The other gauge coupling g' is simply \hat{g}' .

If we take the mass of the Z' to be $M_2 < 1/R_{\text{A.U.}} \simeq 10^{-18} \text{ eV}$ ($R_{\text{A.U.}} \simeq 7.6 \times 10^{26} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$ denotes an astronomical unit) we obtain for particles on Earth a static potential generated

²Here we defined the physical Weinberg angle as $s_W^2 c_W^2 = \frac{\pi \alpha(M_1)}{\sqrt{2} G_F M_1^2}$. This gives the identity $s_W c_W M_1 = \hat{s}_W \hat{c}_W \hat{M}_Z$ and the neutral current coupling constant becomes $e/(\hat{s}_W \hat{c}_W) \simeq e/(s_W c_W) (1 - \xi^2/2)$.

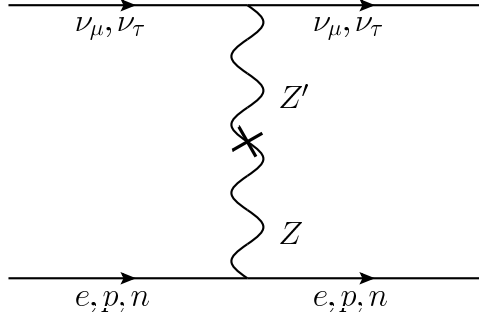


Figure 1: Long-range $\nu_{\mu,\tau}-(e, p, n)$ interaction through $Z-Z'$ -mixing.

by particles in the Sun. This has been studied for the $U(1)_{L_e-L_\mu}$ and the $U(1)_{L_e-L_\tau}$ gauge bosons, for which the electrons in the Sun generate a potential

$$V = \alpha_{e\beta} \frac{N_e}{R_{\text{A.U.}}} \simeq 1.3 \cdot 10^{-11} \left(\frac{\alpha_{e\beta}}{10^{-50}} \right) \text{eV} \quad (15)$$

for the neutrinos $\nu_\beta^{(-)}$ on Earth. Here $\alpha_{e\beta} = g'^2/(4\pi)$ is the “fine-structure constant” of the $U(1)_{L_e-L_\beta}$ and N_e is the number of electrons in the Sun. The constraints from solar neutrino and KamLAND data are $\alpha_{e\mu} < 3.4 \times 10^{-53}$ and $\alpha_{e\tau} < 2.5 \times 10^{-53}$ at 3σ [3–5]. The lack of muons and taus seems to forbid analogous studies of $L_\mu - L_\tau$, since its Z' does not couple directly to protons, neutrons or electrons. Consequently, to the best of our knowledge, there is no limit on $\alpha_{\mu\tau}$ from oscillation experiments.

However, there is an indirect effect due to the $Z-Z'$ mixing (see Fig. 1). For a neutral and unpolarized Sun the final result for the potential is (see the Appendix for details)

$$V_{\mu,\tau} = \pm g' (\xi - s_W \chi) \frac{e}{4 s_W c_W} \frac{N_n}{4\pi R_{\text{A.U.}}} . \quad (16)$$

Looking at Fig. 1, the main features of this potential can be understood as g' and $e/(s_W c_W)$ arising from the vertices and $(\xi - s_W \chi)$ from the $Z-Z'$ mixing (see Eq. (14)). The contributions of the electrons and protons cancel each other, so that finally only the neutrons generate the potential. Their total number in the Sun is about $N_n \simeq N_e/4 \simeq 1.5 \times 10^{56}$. The Earth also generates a comparable potential, approximating a static potential at the surface, we get

$$\frac{V_{\text{earth}}}{V_{\text{sun}}} = \frac{N_{n,\text{earth}}}{N_{n,\text{sun}}} \frac{R_{\text{A.U.}}}{R_{\text{surface}}} \simeq \frac{1.8 \times 10^{51}}{1.5 \times 10^{56}} \frac{1.5 \times 10^8}{6380} \simeq 0.28 . \quad (17)$$

Our full potential at the surface of the Earth is therefore:

$$V_{\mu,\tau} \equiv \pm V = \pm 3.60 \times 10^{-14} \text{eV} \left(\frac{\alpha}{10^{-50}} \right) \text{ with } \alpha \equiv g' (\xi - s_W \chi) . \quad (18)$$

For anti-neutrinos, the sign of V changes. We stress here that the parameter α that we have defined is not a “fine-structure constant” as for the $L_e - L_\mu$ or $L_e - L_\tau$ potentials, but

a combination of coupling and mixing parameters. It can in particular be either positive or negative. Note further that due to the various factors in V the scale for $\alpha = 10^{-50}$ is different than for $\alpha_{e\beta} = 10^{-50}$ in the cases of gauged $L_e - L_\mu$ or $L_e - L_\tau$ in Eq. (15). We will use in the following the value give in Eq. (18) for a long-range force according to the Earth-Sun distance. In order not to completely spoil the successful oscillation phenomenology, V should not become too close to $\Delta m^2/E \simeq 2.9 \times 10^{-12} \text{ (GeV/E) eV}$, where we took for Δm^2 the mean of the two mass-squared differences from Eq. (1).

The crucial Z - Z' mixing, and consequently the potential (16), can only be avoided if for the Lagrangian in Eq. (6) $\mathcal{L}_{\text{mix}} = 0$ holds, i.e., if both χ and $\delta\hat{M}^2$ vanish. As can be seen from Eq. (13), α would vanish for $\delta\hat{M}^2 = 0$. In that case, however, one can show that the next order term for ξ would generate non-zero $\alpha \simeq g' s_W (M_{Z'}/M_Z)^2 \chi$, which is however too small for our purposes, as we will see later. In the case $\chi = 0$, the mixing angle is given by $\tan 2\xi = \frac{2\delta\hat{M}^2}{\hat{M}_Z^2 - \hat{M}_{Z'}^2}$, and α looks as before.

If $M_2 < 1/R_{\text{gal}} \simeq 10^{-27} \text{ eV}$, with R_{gal} the distance between the Sun and the core of the galaxy ($R_{\text{gal}} \simeq 1.6 \times 10^9 R_{\text{A.U.}}$), we would obtain a potential

$$\frac{V_{\text{gal}}}{V_{\text{sun}}} = \frac{(1 - 4) \times 10^{11}}{1.6 \times 10^9} \simeq 60 - 240, \quad (19)$$

(with 100 – 400 billion stars) which would dominate over the Earth and Sun potentials. Depending on the range of the $U(1)$ force the results which we obtain in the following can be easily rescaled.

3 Current bounds on $L_\mu - L_\tau$ parameters

In this Section we will discuss the current bounds on the parameters of $L_\mu - L_\tau$. They arise from gravitational fifth force searches, electroweak precision observables, fermion charge universality and cosmological considerations.

In principle our model violates the equivalence principle because it adds a lepton number dependent force to gravitation. The bounds on such forces are very strict [17] but are not directly applicable here since they are based on lunar ranging and torsion balance experiments, which are only sensitive to the electron and baryon content. The only effect comes once again from mixing; as shown in the Appendix, the potential corresponding to Z' generated by a massive body depends on its neutron number N_n :

$$V(r) = \frac{e(\xi - s_W \chi)}{4 s_W c_W} N_n \frac{e^{-rM_2}}{4\pi r}. \quad (20)$$

The gravitational potential between two bodies with masses m_1 and m_2 and neutron content N_{n_1} and N_{n_2} is therefore changed to

$$V_{\text{grav}}(r) = -G_N \frac{m_1 m_2}{r} \left(1 - \left(\frac{e(\xi - s_W \chi)}{4 s_W c_W} \right)^2 \frac{N_{n_1}}{m_1} \frac{N_{n_2}}{m_2} \frac{1}{4\pi G_N} e^{-rM_2} \right). \quad (21)$$

The 95% C.L. limits for a neutron dependent fifth force as a function of its range are given in [17] (see references therein for a description of the experiments), where the effect of new light vector or scalar bosons is parameterized as

$$V_{\text{grav}}(r) = -G_N \frac{m_1 m_2}{r} \left(1 + \tilde{\alpha} \frac{N_{n_1}}{\mu_1} \frac{N_{n_2}}{\mu_2} e^{-r/\lambda} \right), \quad (22)$$

μ being a test body mass in units of atomic mass unit u and $\tilde{\alpha} = \pm \tilde{g}^2 / (4\pi G_N u^2)$ (the sign distinguishes between vector and scalar interaction). Comparison with Eq. (21) gives the translation into our parameters

$$|\tilde{\alpha}| \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi G_N u^2} \left(\frac{e(\xi - s_W \chi)}{4 s_W c_W} \right)^2, \quad \lambda \equiv \frac{1}{M_2}. \quad (23)$$

For Earth-Sun range we take the bound $|\tilde{\alpha}| < 10^{-11}$, given in [17], corresponding to

$$(\xi - s_W \chi) < 5 \times 10^{-24}, \quad (24)$$

whereas the limit for an Earth range force is given as $|\tilde{\alpha}| < 5 \times 10^{-9}$, corresponding to

$$(\xi - s_W \chi) < 10^{-22}. \quad (25)$$

These are the strongest constraints on the mixing angles.

The parameters are however also constrained through precision data from electroweak observables. Measurements around the Z -pole examine the mass-eigenstate Z_1 with mass (see Eqs. (10,11)) $M_1^2 \simeq a(1 + b^2/a^2)$, while measurements on W -bosons give values for $M_W = \hat{M}_Z c_W$. Therefore the mixing changes the ρ -parameter of the Standard Model from $\rho = M_W^2 / (M_Z^2 c_W^2)$ to

$$\rho_{\text{mix}} = \left(\frac{M_W}{M_1 c_W} \right)^2 = \rho \frac{1}{1 + b^2/a^2} \simeq \rho(1 - \xi^2). \quad (26)$$

The current value [18] is $\rho = 0.9994 \pm 0.0009$ which gives $\xi < 0.025$. Stronger limits arise by reading off from Eq. (14), the vector/axial couplings of the tauon:

$$g_V^\tau \rightarrow 2 s_W^2 - \frac{1}{2} - 2 \frac{s_W c_W}{e} g' \xi, \quad g_A^\tau \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}, \quad (27)$$

where $2 s_W^2 - \frac{1}{2}$ stems from the SM neutral current $j_3^\mu - s_W^2 j_{\text{EM}}^\mu$. The asymmetry parameter $A^\tau \equiv 2 g_V^\tau g_A^\tau / ((g_V^\tau)^2 + (g_A^\tau)^2)$ becomes approximately

$$A^\tau \rightarrow A_{\text{SM}}^\tau \left(1 + \frac{4 s_W c_W}{1 - 4 s_W^2} \frac{g' \xi}{e} \right) \equiv A_{\text{SM}}^\tau + \Delta A^\tau(g' \xi), \quad (28)$$

where $A_{\text{SM}}^\tau = (1 - 4 s_W^2) / (1 - 4 s_W^2 (1 - 2 s_W^2))$ is the value without any new physics. This quantity is measured to be $A^\tau = 0.143 \pm 0.004$ (Ref. [18]), while with the central value

$\sin^2 \theta_W(M_Z) = 0.23116$ one expects $A_{\text{SM}}^\tau = 0.1499$. Since the measured A^τ and A^μ are of the same order while a nonzero $g' \xi$ shifts them in different directions, we will require $\Delta A^\tau(g' \xi)$ to be within the measured error, i.e. $\Delta A^\tau(g' \xi) < 0.004$. This restricts $g' \xi$ to values

$$g' \xi < 3.6 \times 10^{-4}. \quad (29)$$

This limit is stronger than e.g. from the Z -coupling to ν_μ or the ratio $\Gamma(Z \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-)/\Gamma(Z \rightarrow e^+ e^-)$, where

$$\Gamma(Z \rightarrow \ell \bar{\ell}) = \frac{\alpha M_Z}{12 s_W^2 c_W^2} ((g_V^\ell)^2 + (g_A^\ell)^2) \quad (30)$$

at tree-level, ignoring lepton masses.

The mixing also changes the electromagnetic behavior, as can be seen from the Lagrangian (14), slightly rewritten and shown only for negatively charged muons (μ), electrons (e) and positrons (e^+):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{Z_2} = & - \left\{ \left[g' + e c_W \chi - (\xi - s_W \chi) \frac{e}{s_W c_W} \left(s_W^2 - \frac{1}{4} \right) \right] \bar{\mu} \gamma_\beta \mu \right. \\ & - \left[e c_W \chi - (\xi - s_W \chi) \frac{e}{s_W c_W} \left(s_W^2 - \frac{1}{4} \right) \right] \bar{e}^+ \gamma_\beta e^+ \\ & \left. + \left[e c_W \chi - (\xi - s_W \chi) \frac{e}{s_W c_W} \left(s_W^2 - \frac{1}{4} \right) \right] \bar{e} \gamma_\beta e \right\} Z_2^\beta, \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

In muonium the coupling between positive muons and electrons is modified because there is not only photon exchange, but also photon- Z' mixing. In direct analogy to the derivation of the neutrino potential given in the Appendix, one finds an effective potential

$$V_{\mu^+ e^-}(r) = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi} \left(1 - \frac{g'}{e} \tilde{Q}_P e^{-r M_2} \right) \frac{1}{r}. \quad (32)$$

where $\tilde{Q}_P \equiv -(\xi - s_W \chi)(1/4 - s_W^2)/(s_W c_W) - c_W \chi$. Hence, the result is an effective change of the fine-structure constant in systems involving muons (or tauons)³. On atomic scales the factor $e^{-r M_2}$ can be omitted. By comparing the above potential with the potential for positronium we find the ratio of the μ^+ and positron charge

$$\frac{Q(\mu^+)}{Q(e^+)} = \frac{\frac{e^2}{4\pi} \left(1 - \frac{g'}{e} \tilde{Q}_P \right)}{\frac{e^2}{4\pi}} \simeq 1 - \frac{g'}{e} \tilde{Q}_P. \quad (33)$$

³There is an effect quadratic in \tilde{Q}_P due to two mixings in systems like positronium or hydrogen, which is however way too small to be observable.

This ratio has been measured via the muonium hyperfine-structure [23] to be 1 with an accuracy of 10^{-7} , corresponding to a limit

$$g' (3 s_W \chi + (1 - 4 s_W^2) \xi) < 5 \times 10^{-8}. \quad (34)$$

Note that, as it should, there is no effect in case of $\chi = \zeta = 0$, i.e., when there is no photon- Z' mixing. In case di-muonium (a bound state of μ^- and μ^+ [24]) would be produced, one could test the Z' even in the limit of no mixing.

Another effect the new light Z' would have is a contribution to the effective number of degrees of freedom, potentially threatening for instance the success of Big Bang Nucleosynthesis (BBN). Recent BBN measurements as well as other cosmological probes are compatible with about one extra degree of freedom [19]. Let us demand that the Z' does not contribute. This means for the case of BBN that it should enter equilibrium after weak interactions freeze out ($T \simeq \text{MeV}$), and requires to consider the process $Z' Z' \rightarrow \nu_{\mu,\tau} \nu_{\mu,\tau}$, whose rate goes as $(g'^2/(4\pi))^2 T$. Comparing this to the Hubble rate $H \simeq T^2/M_{\text{Pl}}$ gives the requirement $g'^2/(4\pi) \lesssim 10^{-11}$ [20]. A constraint of similar size has been estimated from Supernova 1987a [21]. An upper limit of $g'^2/(4\pi) \lesssim 10^{-18}$ can be obtained with the process $\gamma \mu \rightarrow Z' \mu$, going with $g'^2/(4\pi) \propto T$, and demanding that Z' is not in equilibrium at $T = m_\mu$ [22].

As expected, the largest constraints stem from the equivalence principle and BBN. However, the small values of the $L_\mu - L_\tau$ parameters required in order to give observable effects in oscillation experiments are compatible with these limits.

4 MINOS and Beyond

The potential V in Eq. (18) generated by $L_\mu - L_\tau$ is flavor dependent, acts on the μ - τ part of the system, and has a different sign for neutrinos and anti-neutrinos. Consequently it is a good candidate for an explanation of the MINOS results, which seemingly give different mixing parameters in the muon neutrino and anti-neutrino oscillations. In a 2-flavor approach, the Schrödinger-like equation for neutrinos is (note that we start in the mass basis)

$$i \frac{d}{dt} \vec{\nu}_M = \frac{1}{2E} \begin{pmatrix} m_2^2 & 0 \\ 0 & m_3^2 \end{pmatrix} \vec{\nu}_M + V U^\dagger \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} U \vec{\nu}_M, \quad (35)$$

where $\Delta m^2 \equiv m_3^2 - m_2^2$ is the atmospheric mass-squared difference and $\vec{\nu}_M = (\nu_2, \nu_3)^T$ are the mass eigenstates which are connected to the flavor states $\vec{\nu}_{\text{flavor}} = (\nu_\mu, \nu_\tau)^T = U \vec{\nu}_M$ via the matrix

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}. \quad (36)$$

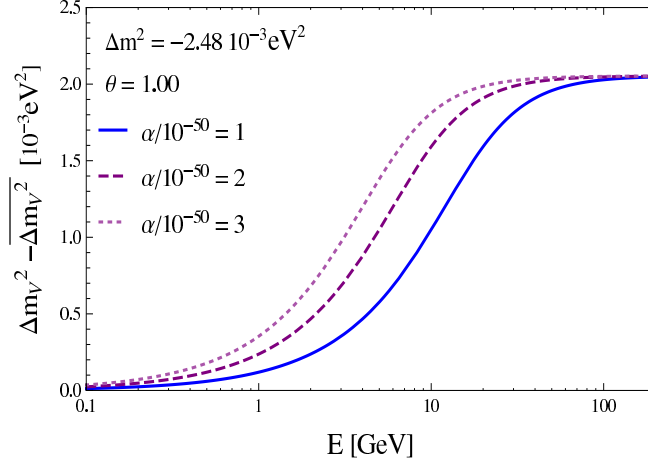


Figure 2: Difference between the mass-squared differences of neutrinos and anti-neutrinos (choosing initial values of $\Delta m^2 = -2.48 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ and $\theta = 1$) for different values of α as a function of energy.

Here $\theta = \theta_{23}$ is the atmospheric mixing angle.

The Schrödinger-like equation (35) thus contains the Hamiltonian:

$$H_V = \frac{1}{2E} \begin{pmatrix} m_2^2 + 2EV \cos 2\theta & 2EV \sin 2\theta \\ 2EV \sin 2\theta & m_3^2 - 2EV \cos 2\theta \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2E} U_V \begin{pmatrix} m_{2,V}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & m_{3,V}^2 \end{pmatrix} U_V^\dagger. \quad (37)$$

As we have indicated, H_V is diagonalized by the rotation matrix

$$U_V = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi & \sin \phi \\ -\sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{with } \tan 2\phi = \frac{2\eta \sin 2\theta}{1 - 2\eta \cos 2\theta}. \quad (38)$$

We have introduced $\eta \equiv \frac{2EV}{\Delta m^2}$. The new mass eigenvalues $m_{2,V}^2$ and $m_{3,V}^2$ are associated to the new mass eigenstates $\vec{\nu}_{M,V} = (\nu_{2,V}, \nu_{3,V})^T$ via

$$\vec{\nu}_{M,V} = U_V^\dagger \vec{\nu}_M = U_V^\dagger U^\dagger \vec{\nu}_{\text{flavor}}. \quad (39)$$

Thus, in the presence of the potential V , the mixing angle between flavor and mass eigenstates becomes $\theta + \phi$ and Δm^2 changes to $\Delta m_V^2 \equiv m_{3,V}^2 - m_{2,V}^2$. The exact results for the parameters are

$$\sin^2 2\theta_V = \frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{1 - 4\eta \cos 2\theta + 4\eta^2}, \quad (40)$$

$$\Delta m_V^2 = \Delta m^2 \sqrt{1 - 4\eta \cos 2\theta + 4\eta^2} = \Delta m^2 \sqrt{\frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{\sin^2 2\theta_V}}. \quad (41)$$

For $V = 0$ the vacuum results $\sin^2 2\theta$ and Δm^2 are obtained. For anti-neutrinos, the potential V and hence η changes sign, thereby an apparent difference between the oscillation

parameters of neutrinos ($\Delta m_V^2, \theta$) and anti-neutrinos ($\overline{\Delta m_V^2}, \bar{\theta}$) could arise. Fig. 2 shows the difference between the mass-squared differences of neutrinos and anti-neutrinos (choosing an initial value of $\Delta m^2 = -2.48 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$) for different values of α as a function of energy.

We note here three important properties following from Eqs. (40, 41):

- first, the effect goes with $\eta \cos 2\theta$, and therefore it is absent if θ is maximal. In this case the oscillation parameters θ and Δm^2 would be the same for neutrinos and anti-neutrinos, but with a common offset compared to their values for $V = 0$. If the long-range force mediated by $L_\mu - L_\tau$ is responsible for the MINOS anomaly, then the necessary $\theta \neq \pi/4$ is a possibility to disentangle it from any other proposed explanation [12–14];
- the second point is that the corrections to the mixing angle and the mass-squared difference are correlated. For positive Δm^2 and α the correction for $\sin^2 2\theta$ goes in the opposite direction as the correction of the Δm^2 . Recalling that MINOS finds $\overline{\Delta m^2} > \Delta m^2$ we therefore predict for positive Δm^2 and α that $\sin^2 2\theta > \sin^2 2\bar{\theta}$, which is compatible with the MINOS results (see Eq. (1)), and can be checked with higher statistics data sets. For negative Δm^2 and positive α the correction goes in the same direction, and hence $\sin^2 2\theta < \sin^2 2\bar{\theta}$;
- the third point is that the relative effect is expected to be slightly larger for $\sin^2 2\theta$ than for Δm^2 .

We can estimate the magnitude of the parameter η as

$$\eta \simeq 0.025 \left(\frac{\alpha}{10^{-50}} \right) \left(\frac{E}{\text{GeV}} \right), \quad (42)$$

which allows for not too high energies (note that at MINOS the oscillation dip occurs at around $E \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$) and for α around 10^{-50} (see the discussion after Eq. (18)), η is small and can be used as an expansion parameter. As can be seen from (40) and (41) the relative difference of the mass-squared differences is in this case obtained as

$$\frac{\Delta m_V^2 - \overline{\Delta m_V^2}}{\Delta m^2} \simeq -4 \eta \cos 2\theta, \quad (43)$$

while for the mixing angle the result is:

$$\frac{\sin^2 2\theta_V - \sin^2 2\bar{\theta}_V}{\sin^2 2\theta} \simeq 8 \eta \cos 2\theta. \quad (44)$$

These expressions nicely confirm the three points mentioned above. The muon neutrino and anti-neutrino survival probabilities are

$$P \equiv P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu) = 1 - \sin^2 2\theta_V \sin^2 \frac{\Delta m_V^2}{4E} L, \quad (45)$$

$$\overline{P} = P(\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu) = P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu)(\alpha \leftrightarrow -\alpha), \quad (46)$$

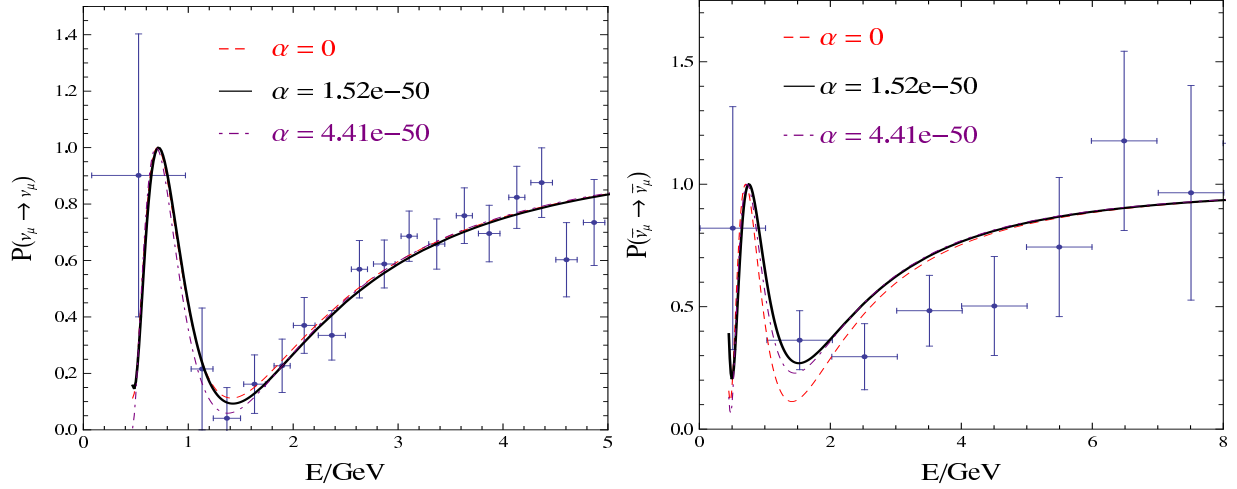


Figure 3: The oscillation probabilities for the best-fit values from Eq. (49) for neutrinos and anti-neutrinos superimposed on the MINOS data. Also plotted are the cases $\alpha = 0$ and the value for the second, local χ^2 -minimum.

which are subject to the following degeneracies

$$P(\theta, \Delta m^2, \alpha) = P(\theta, -\Delta m^2, -\alpha) = P(\theta + \pi/2, \Delta m^2, -\alpha) = P(\theta + \pi/2, -\Delta m^2, \alpha). \quad (47)$$

While the part discussed so far was rather general, we continue by applying the formalism to the recently found MINOS results [11]. We have performed with the expressions (45, 46) a χ^2 -fit to the MINOS data (given in bins of energy E_i) on the ratio of observed events divided by the expectation for no oscillations. This data was taken, as in Ref. [14], from the slides of the talk referred to in our Ref. [11]. In case of asymmetric errors, the largest one was used and inserted in the χ^2 -function

$$\chi^2(\theta, \Delta m^2, \alpha) = \sum_i \left(\frac{P(\theta, \Delta m^2, \alpha, E_i) - R_i}{\sigma_i^2} \right)^2 + \sum_i \left(\frac{\bar{P}(\theta, \Delta m^2, \alpha, E_i) - \bar{R}_i}{\bar{\sigma}_i^2} \right)^2, \quad (48)$$

where P (\bar{P}) is the survival probability $P(\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\mu)$ from Eq. (45) (from Eq. (46)), R_i (\bar{R}_i) the ratio of observed events relative to the no-oscillation expectation, and σ_i ($\bar{\sigma}_i$) the error for the neutrino (anti-neutrino) data set. The result of our fit after marginalizing over Δm^2 and θ is⁴

$$\sin^2 2\theta = 0.83 \pm 0.08, \quad \Delta m^2 = (-2.48 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2, \quad \alpha = (1.52^{+1.17}_{-1.14}) \times 10^{-50}, \quad (49)$$

with $\chi^2_{\min}/N_{\text{dof}} = 47.77/50 \simeq 0.96$. Recall the degeneracies listed in Eq. (47). In Fig. 3 we show the experimental data together with the results of our fit. One can see that the

⁴We have checked our analysis by setting $\alpha = 0$ and have obtained the best-fit values $\Delta m^2 = 2.28 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$, $\sin^2 2\theta = 0.94$ for the neutrino data set, and $\bar{\Delta m}^2 = 3.38 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$, $\sin^2 2\bar{\theta} = 0.81$ for the anti-neutrinos, in good agreement with the MINOS results. A fit to the total data set yields $\Delta m^2 = (2.38^{+0.20}_{-0.17}) \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ and $\sin^2 2\theta = 0.89^{+0.08}_{-0.07}$, with $\chi^2_{\min}/N_{\text{dof}} = 49.43/51 \simeq 0.97$.

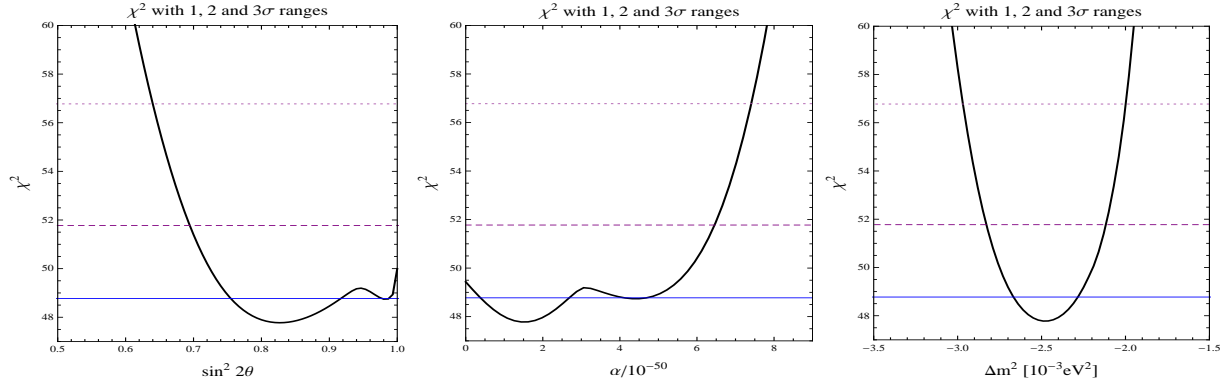


Figure 4: The χ^2 -function from Eq. (48) as a function of the fit parameters.

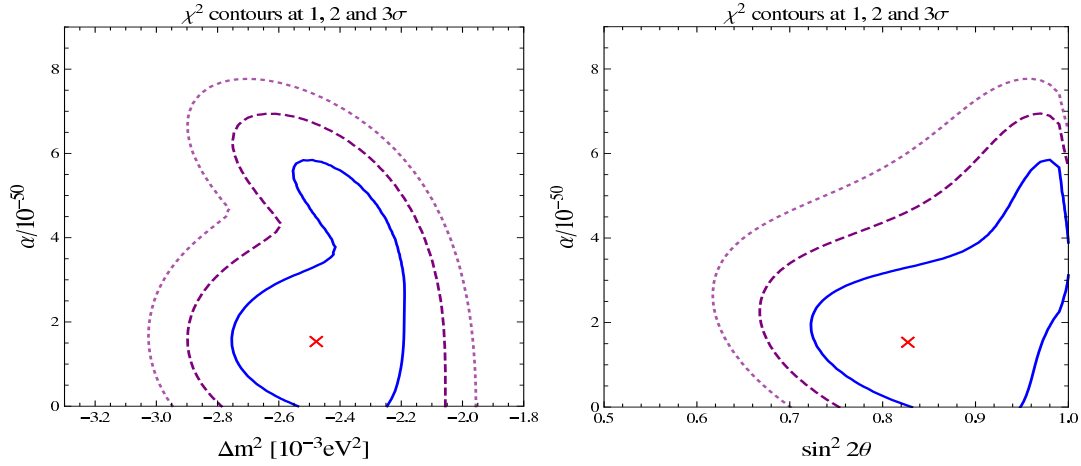


Figure 5: The 1, 2 and 3σ (or equivalently $\Delta\chi^2 = 2.3, 6.18, 11.83$) contours in the α - Δm^2 plane when marginalized over θ (left) and in the α - $\sin^2 2\theta$ plane when marginalized over Δm^2 (right). The cross marks the best-fit point.

non-zero value of α puts in particular the data points at the oscillation minimum in better agreement with the curves. From the plot of the χ^2 -function in Fig. 4 one sees that there is a second (local) minimum, corresponding to $\sin^2 2\theta = 0.98$, $\Delta m^2 = 2.36 \times 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$ and $\alpha = 4.41 \times 10^{-50}$, with $\chi^2_{\min}/N_{\text{dof}} = 48.73/50 \simeq 0.97$. The curves for this point are also plotted in Fig. 3. The second local minimum also explains the “rabbit head looking” shape of the contours in α - Δm^2 and α - $\sin^2 2\theta$ space shown in Fig. 5.

The goodness of fit is not particularly worse for the absence of new physics, which has been noted also in Ref. [14].

We continue by discussing the consequences of the implied value of α in future neutrino oscillation experiments. We have modified the commonly used GLoBES software [25] to include the potential V from Eq. (16). Using the pre-defined packages (“AEDL files”) for the most frequently discussed future experiments, we analyzed T2K, NO ν A and a neutrino

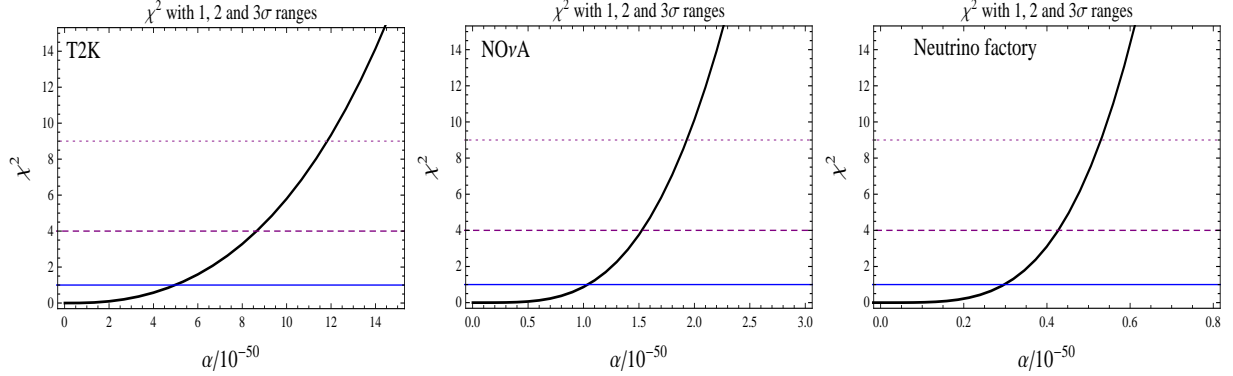


Figure 6: The 1, 2 and 3σ limits which can be obtained by T2K (left), NO ν A (middle) and a neutrino factory (right).

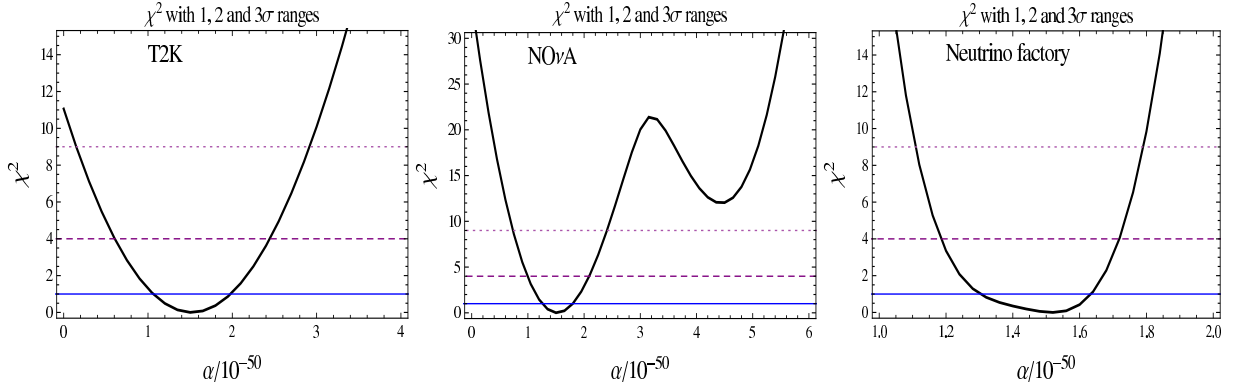


Figure 7: The 1, 2 and 3σ constraints on α which can be obtained by T2K (left), NO ν A (middle) and a neutrino factory (right) if $\alpha = (1.52^{+0.11}_{-0.21}) \times 10^{-50}$.

factory, as listed in Table 1, to obtain future constraints on α . The oscillation parameters we use are listed in Table 2. The result is that at 3σ , α can be constrained to be below 11.80×10^{-50} , 1.93×10^{-50} and 0.53×10^{-50} , respectively. The χ^2 -functions generated by GLoBES are shown in Fig. 6.

Setting the true parameter values of α , θ and Δm^2 (and their errors) to our best-fit values from Eq. (49), we can see how the “precision” on α can be improved. From the plots of χ^2 in Fig. 7 one sees that NO ν A would give $\alpha = (1.52 \pm 0.27) \times 10^{-50}$, T2K would yield $\alpha = (1.52 \pm 0.46) \times 10^{-50}$ and NuFact would determine very precisely $\alpha = (1.52^{+0.11}_{-0.21}) \times 10^{-50}$.

As mentioned above, long-range forces generated by $L_e - L_{\mu,\tau}$ have been discussed before. Ref. [3] bounds $\alpha_{e\mu,\tau}$ by analyzing ν_μ and ν_τ oscillations and using atmospheric neutrino data. It is easy to see that in a two-flavor framework, the potential $V_{e\tau} = \alpha_{e\tau} N_e / R_{A.U.}$ corresponds to $2V_{\mu\tau}$. Likewise, $V_{e\mu}$ corresponds to $-2V_{\mu\tau}$. Therefore, the limit of $\alpha_{e\tau} < 6.4 \times 10^{-52}$ obtained in Ref. [3] corresponds to $\alpha = g'(\xi - s_W \chi) < 8.9 \times 10^{-50}$, not in conflict with our fit-result from Eq. (49). In turn, this means that not only $L_\mu - L_\tau$ could be

the origin of the MINOS anomaly, but also $L_e - L_\mu$ or $L_e - L_\tau$, for which $\alpha = 1.52 \times 10^{-50}$ translates into $\alpha_{e\mu,\tau} = 1.1 \times 10^{-52}$. If we take the 3σ -bound $\alpha_{e\tau} < 2.5 \times 10^{-53}$ from solar neutrino and KamLAND data [4] and treat it like in the 2-flavor case we obtain $\alpha < 3.5 \times 10^{-51}$. However, the interplay of the other limits on long-range forces, and also the impact of stronger bounds on $\alpha_{e\mu,\tau}$ using solar and KamLAND data [4], can not be used without doing a full 3-flavor fit to all data. In general, we note that the different flavor structures of the potentials arising from $L_e - L_\mu$, $L_e - L_\tau$ and $L_\mu - L_\tau$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} V & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -V & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} V & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -V \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & V & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -V \end{pmatrix}, \quad (50)$$

render it difficult to translate existing bounds on $L_e - L_\mu$ or $L_e - L_\tau$ into constraints on $L_\mu - L_\tau$, in particular if in addition a matter potential is present in V_{ee} . We would like to stress though that the solar neutrino oscillations should really be fitted specifically for this model, since the electron and neutron densities in the Sun are not proportional.

In Ref. [14] the presence of Non-Standard Interactions was assumed as the reason for the MINOS anomaly. In particular, a term $\epsilon_{\mu\tau}$ was introduced, and in the Hamiltonian it appears together with the potential $V_m \simeq \sqrt{2}G_F n_e \simeq 1.1 \times 10^{-13}$ eV. By fitting the MINOS data, the value $\epsilon_{\mu\tau} = -(0.12 \pm 0.21)$ was obtained. We note that for $|\epsilon_{\mu\tau}| = 0.1$ the term $V_m \epsilon_{\mu\tau}$ is of the same order of magnitude as our potential for $\alpha \simeq 10^{-50}$. A small difference to our explanation is that $V_m \propto n_e$, i.e., the potential depends on the electron density, which in turn depends on the matter density of the Earth. This changes with baseline, and hence could in principle be used to distinguish Non-Standard Interactions from our explanation. We should note here that in a 2-neutrino framework the relation $2V = V_m \epsilon_{\mu\mu}$ holds, and our range of α would correspond to $\epsilon_{\mu\mu} \gtrsim 0.25$, to be compared with the 90 % C.L. limit [27] $|\epsilon_{\mu\mu}| \leq 0.068$. Saturating this limit would correspond⁵ to $\alpha = 1.04 \times 10^{-51}$. A fit to the data fixing it to this value yields $\sin^2 2\theta = 0.88_{-0.07}^{+0.08}$ and $\Delta m^2 = (-2.39_{-0.17}^{+0.20}) \times 10^{-3}$ eV², with $\chi^2_{\min}/N_{\text{dof}} = 49.25/51 \simeq 0.97$.

It is worth discussing the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon, where since many years a conflict between theory (i.e., its Standard Model calculation) and experiment exists [18]. The current experimental value of a_μ differs by 3.2σ from the Standard Model prediction, although there is some uncertainty in the hadronic contributions. Nevertheless, since the Z' couples to the muon, it contributes to Δa_μ [6]. In the limit of $M'_Z \ll m_\mu$, the contribution is

$$\Delta a_\mu = \frac{g'^2}{8\pi^2}, \quad (51)$$

which in our light case translates into a constraint on the coupling g' . From the constraint $\Delta a_\mu \lesssim 255 \times 10^{-11}$ it follows that $g' \lesssim 4.49 \times 10^{-4}$. This would imply $(\xi - s_W \chi) \gtrsim 3.3 \times 10^{-47}$ in order to explain the MINOS anomaly.

⁵Similar comments apply for limits from atmospheric neutrino oscillations, which have a somewhat stronger limit [28].

Turning to neutrino masses, the conservation of $L_\mu - L_\tau$ dictates the effective neutrino Majorana mass matrix to be [9, 10]

$$m_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ \cdot & 0 & b \\ \cdot & \cdot & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (52)$$

regardless of its origin, such as some form of see-saw. It would result in neutrino masses a and $\pm b$, hence one expects (close to) quasi-degenerate masses. Though the mass matrix is μ - τ symmetric, and hence implies $\theta_{13} = 0$ and $\theta_{23} = \pi/4$, it is too simple and can not reproduce all data. Breaking $L_\mu - L_\tau$ is achieved by introducing extra Higgs particles Φ' , which obtain a vev. Necessarily, the implied scale of the Z' mass (which is generated by breaking of $L_\mu - L_\tau$) and the additional entries in m_ν are correlated via $m'_Z \sim g' \langle \Phi' \rangle$ and $(m_\nu)_{\alpha\beta} \lesssim \langle \Phi' \rangle$ if it is a weak triplet, $(m_\nu)_{\alpha\beta} \lesssim v_{\text{wk}} \langle \Phi' \rangle / \Lambda$ if it is a doublet and couples to the SM Higgs, or $(m_\nu)_{\alpha\beta} \lesssim \langle \Phi' \rangle^2 / \Lambda$ if it does not. Here Λ denotes the high energy scale which acts as the necessary suppression of the neutrino mass. Simultaneous ultra-light Z' of order 10^{-19} eV and sizable $(m_\nu)_{\alpha\beta} \simeq 0.1$ eV implies for, say, $\Lambda = 10^{15}$ GeV that for doublets $\langle \Phi' \rangle$ is of order 10^3 GeV and hence $g' \sim 10^{-30}$, while $g' \sim 10^{-17}$ for triplets. Hence, the Z' will essentially not contribute to the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon.

5 Conclusions

Long-range forces mediated by the Z' boson associated with gauged $L_\mu - L_\tau$ can lead to interesting and largely unexplored phenomenology. For instance, neutrons in the Sun generate via Z - Z' mixing a flavor-dependent potential for terrestrial muon and tau neutrinos. This potential changes sign for anti-neutrinos, and hence can lead to apparent differences in neutrino and anti-neutrino oscillations. Applying this new finding to the recently found MINOS anomaly implies a value of around $\alpha \simeq 10^{-50}$, where $\alpha = g' (\xi - s_W \chi)$ is the product of the new gauge coupling and the parameters quantifying the Z - Z' mixing. An interesting correlation between the atmospheric neutrino parameters Δm^2 and θ is found. The latter is required to be non-maximal, which is one of the handles to probe this explanation of the anomaly. By making use of the GLoBES software we have furthermore discussed future constraints on α . Time will show whether the discrepancy in the MINOS results survives. Nevertheless, many new physics effects imply different neutrino and anti-neutrino behavior, which underlines the importance of analyzing them separately. The new effect arising from $L_\mu - L_\tau$ (via Z - Z' mixing) noted in the present letter is one more example for this, and we have given simple estimates for future constraints.

It would be interesting to discuss a similar approach for other “anomalous” oscillation results in which apparent differences of neutrinos and anti-neutrinos are found, such as the recent MiniBooNE excess in a $\bar{\nu}_\mu \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_e$ search [29], or the slightly larger θ_{12} found in solar neutrino analyses with respect to the θ_{12} in reactor anti-neutrino experiments. As a final

remark, neither CP nor CPT violation are in this framework necessary for the apparent differences in neutrino and anti-neutrino oscillation probabilities.

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Experiment	Baseline	Running-time [years]	Beam-energy [GeV]	Detector mass
T2K	295 km	5 ν + 5 $\bar{\nu}$	0.2 – 2	22.5 kt
NO ν A	812 km	3 ν + 3 $\bar{\nu}$	0.5 – 3.5	15 kt
Nufact	3000 km	4 ν + 4 $\bar{\nu}$	4 – 50	50 kt

Table 1: Parameters of long-baseline oscillation experiments simulated by the GLoBES software [25].

θ_{12}	$\arcsin \sqrt{0.318 \pm 0.02} \text{ (3\%)}$
θ_{13}	0 ± 0.2
θ_{23}	$\arcsin \sqrt{0.500 \pm 0.07} \text{ (9\%)}$
δ_{CP}	$\in [0, 2\pi]$
$\Delta m_{21}^2 \text{ [} 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2 \text{]}$	$7.59 \pm 0.23 \text{ (3\%)}$
$\Delta m_{31}^2 \text{ [} 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2 \text{]}$	$2.40 \pm 0.12 \text{ (5\%)}$

Table 2: Oscillation parameters [26] used as input to the GLoBES simulation.

A Derivation of the Potential

For the sake of completeness, let us give here a derivation of the static potential which the particles in the Sun generate for terrestrial neutrinos. The potential (15) for gauged $L_e - L_\mu$ or $L_e - L_\tau$ can also be derived in this fashion. From Eq. (14) we consider the time-like components, note that $j_{\text{EM}}^0 = 0$ and have that

$$j_3^0 = -\frac{1}{2} \bar{e}_L \gamma^0 e_L + \frac{1}{2} \bar{p}_L \gamma^0 p_L - \frac{1}{2} \bar{n}_L \gamma^0 n_L = -\frac{1}{4} (n_e - n_p + n_n) = -\frac{n_n}{4}, \quad (\text{A1})$$

since the axial-part will result in a spin-operator in the non-relativistic limit and we assume the Sun is not polarized. The equation of motion for Z_2^0 , following from the Euler-Lagrange equation

$$\partial_\nu \frac{\delta}{\delta(\partial_\nu Z_{2\mu})} \left(-\frac{1}{4} Z_{2\alpha\beta} Z_2^{\alpha\beta} \right) - \frac{\delta}{\delta Z_{2\mu}} \left(\frac{1}{2} M_2^2 Z_{2\alpha} Z_2^\alpha + \mathcal{L}_{Z_2} \right) = 0, \quad (\text{A2})$$

is therefore

$$(\partial^2 + M_2^2) Z_2^0 = (\xi - s_W \chi) \frac{e}{s_W c_W} \frac{n_n}{4}. \quad (\text{A3})$$

In the static case outside of the Sun this is $(n_n(\vec{x}) = N_n \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x}))$:

$$(\Delta - M_2^2) Z_2^0 = -(\xi - s_W \chi) \frac{e}{s_W c_W} \frac{1}{4} N_n \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x}) \quad (\text{A4})$$

with the well-known solution

$$V(r) = Z_2^0 = (\xi - s_W \chi) \frac{e}{s_W c_W} \frac{1}{4} N_n \times \frac{e^{-rM_2}}{4\pi r}. \quad (\text{A5})$$

In the limit $M_2 \rightarrow 0$ the potential, for ν_μ and ν_τ respectively, on Earth is⁶:

$$V_{\mu,\tau} = \pm g' (\xi - s_W \chi) \frac{e}{4 s_W c_W} \frac{N_n}{4\pi R_{\text{A.U.}}} + \mathcal{O}(\xi^2, \chi^2, \xi\chi). \quad (\text{A6})$$

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⁶We assume that the mixing angles are somewhat smaller than g' so we can drop the $\mathcal{O}(\xi^2, \chi^2, \xi\chi)$ terms against $\mathcal{O}(g'\chi, g'\xi)$. In the actual neutrino oscillation the terms without g' will be generation independent and therefore drop out.

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